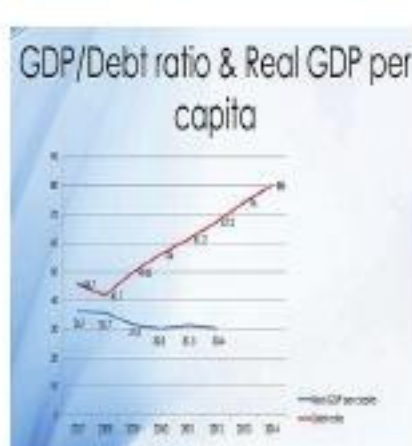




ATA releases
tourism
statistic for
1st Q of 2014

> **LOCAL PAGE 2**



**KVK BUSINESS
EVENT 2014**

> **LOCAL PAGE 5**



**CLIPPER'S
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> **SPORT PAGE 14**

THE MORNING NEWS

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Wednesday, April 30, 2014

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The first CBR Conference to be conducted on Aruba in conjunction with CARPHA

ORANJESTAD -- Beginning on Thursday, May 1, the Renaissance Convention Center in Oranjestad will be hosting the 59th annual three-day CARPHA (Caribbean Public Health Agency) conference. Taking advantage of the hundreds of delegates specializing in health concerns for the region, CBR, a newly formed agency directing their attention to the needs of the disabled, will be conducting their first conference on Aruba beginning today at 8:30 AM, with the intention of becoming a node with the CARPHA sphere of interest.

Local organizers of the CBR Conference, Uginia Thomson of the Public Health Agency Directorship

and Carroll Kock of the Department of Social Affairs welcomed Dr. Glenville Leburd from St. Kitts and Nevis, a founder of CBR, to explain the purpose of the fledgling health organization, and its hopes to integrate care for the physically disabled into the planning stages of regional health plans, rather than them being sandwiched in later, as an afterthought.

Carroll Kock affirmed that the needs of those with physical limitation is of utmost concern to the Department of Social Affairs, and programs that allow them therapy and training so they can mainstream into Aruba society are extremely important.

The purpose of the cost-free one day con-

ference is to forward the CBR position and agenda by:

- Promoting CBR programs as a means to achieve inclusive development in the Caribbean
- Establish one Caribbean voice in support of CBR
- A body to lead CBR in the region
- A platform to share CBR experiences
- Build capacity through conferences, workshops and training session
- Become guided by one document-WHO CBR Guidelines
- Be guided by on legal framework-UN Convention on the Rights of Per-



L. to r.: Carroll Kock, Uginia Thompson of Aruba and Dr. Glenville Leburd of St Kitts and Nevis

sons with Disabilities The 26 nations of the CARICOM (Caribbean Community) are eligible to send delegates to the invitation only conference. Aruba's agen-

cies involved in this program expressed how pleased they are to host the event, and be involved in furthering assistance and finalizing programs for those with limited

abilities living in the Caribbean. For more information about the conference, and the mission and vision of CBR, visit their website: <http://www.cbrcaribbean.com/>

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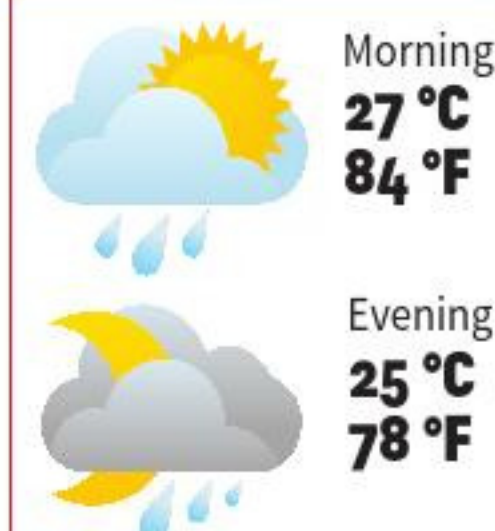
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Poll: Obama ratings hit new low



President Barack Obama's approval rating has hit a new low as Americans disapprove of his policies on the economy, health care and the crisis in Ukraine, according to a new poll. Obama's rating sunk to 41 percent from 46 percent in the first three months of the year

TODAY'S WEATHER



Morning
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84 °F

Evening
25 °C
78 °F

Wind: E - 23 mph
Humidity: 79%
UV-Index: 11-Extreme
Sunrise: 6:27 am
Sunset: 6:53 pm



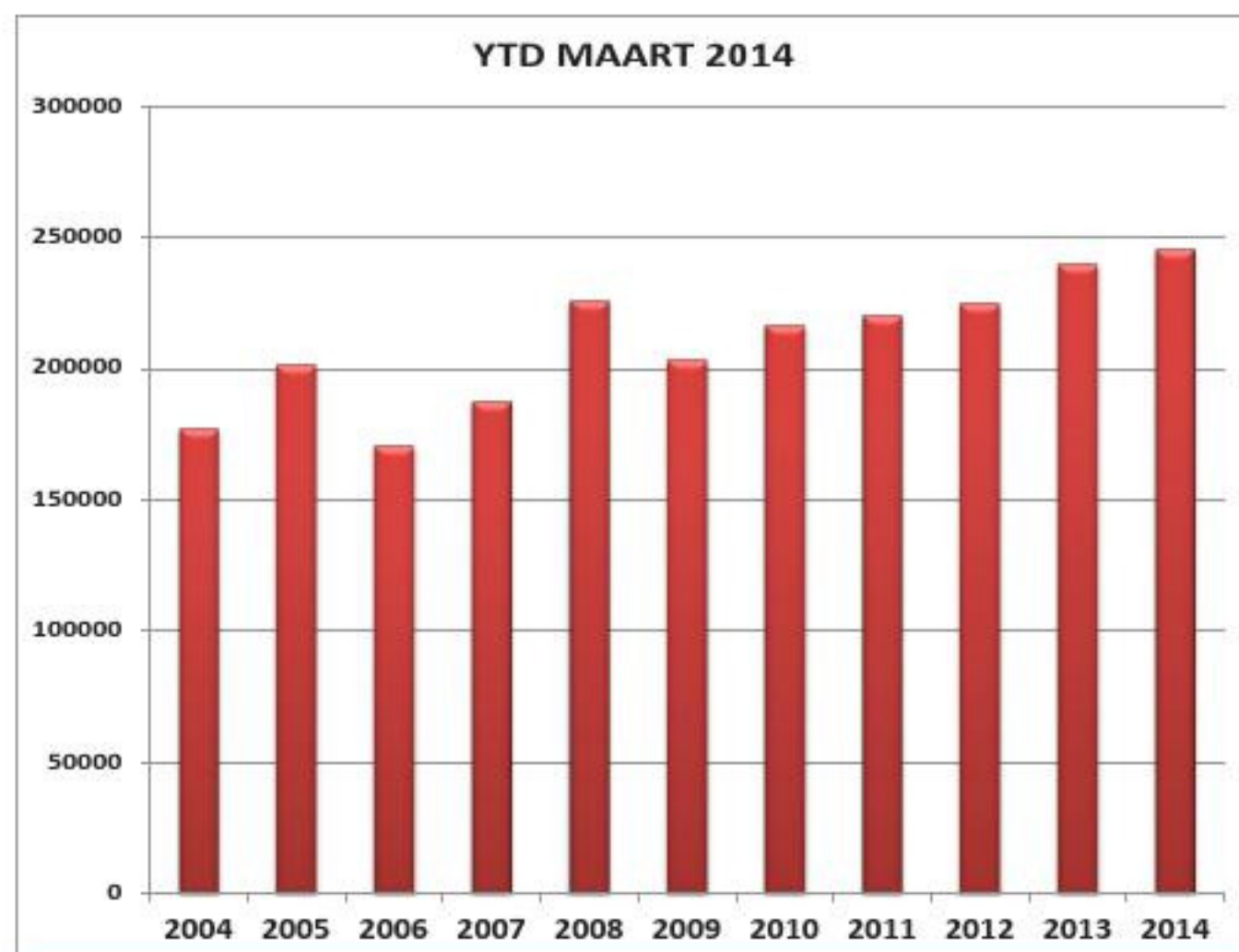
LOCAL NEWS

ATA releases tourism statistic for first quarter of 2014

ORANJESTAD - The Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) released the newest numbers for visitors and tourism revenue over the first quarter of 2014 this week. For the month of March, Aruba welcomed 83,131 visitors, an increase of 7.5% over March, 2013. However, calculating the total visitors for the first quarter of 2014 compared to 2013 and overall numbers for the quarter are up by 2.2%. The drastic drop in March from last year is likely because of the "Semana Santa" of Easter week, when the island traditionally is filled with vacationers from the U.S., but particularly Latin America. This year, this week did not come until the second half of April, as opposed to March of last year.

In regards to cruise tourism, 80,375 passengers disembarked on Aruba during March of 2014, down from the total of 84,229 in the same month last year. That is a reduction of 4.6%.

North America
This continent is the islands' principal tourism market. In the first quarter of 2014, 167,443 visitors traveled to Aruba, an increase of 3,157 over the first quarter of 2013. Tourism numbers from North America



ican steadily increase, this year during the first quarter by 1.9%. In total, North America represents 68.3% of the island's visitors.

Latin America
Aruba welcomed a total of 50,884 Latin tourists, an increase of 2%, 1,012 more over 2013. Latin America accounts for 20.8% of the island's tourism market.

Europe
For the first quarter, visitors from Europe grew by 6.4%, with 1,192 more visitors over last year. A total of 19,908 European tourists arrived during the first quarter of 2014. Such a strong increase indicates the European economy is bouncing

back after some difficult times. This continent represents a total of 8.1% of the total visitors to Aruba during the first quarter of 2014.

Type of Tourist
Not only of interest is the number of tourists coming to the island, but their spending habits while here. This is indicated by their choices of accommodation and how high a tariff they are will to pay, which is the "Average Daily Rate" or (ADR). It is very important to factor this in when evaluating statistics; taking into account the high occupancy rates affects the prices of a room. The Aruba Hotel and

Tourism Association, AHATA, reports that during the first quarter of 2014, the ADR is down by 16.6% compared to 2013. The cost of a room averaged US\$ 249.48 during the first quarter of 2013 compared to US\$ 290.85 in 2014. Hotel occupancy dropped by 1.2% over the 82.1% of the first quarter of 2013 to 80.9% this year. Earnings were higher per room, but the REVPAR dropped by 14.8% to only average only US\$ 204.90 for the first quarter of 2013 and US\$ 235.27 for the first months of 2014. The resulting average fell by 3.4% adjusting for cost.

Social activities for senior citizens at Scol di Arte



SAN NICOLAS - On Friday, May 9, UNOCA and Scol di Arte will organize another activity known as Cultural Kick at the Scol di Arte in San Nicolas. The activity is especially for 60 plussers.

For 2 long hours attendees can enjoy story telling, poetry, singing and at the end everyone is invited to show their moves on the dancing floor. Performing artists are Diana Antonette, Shi Preke, Bertha Wolff, Belen Kock-Marchena and Dolli Kock. Together they will take care for a very entertaining ambiance.

Remember that space is limited, the hall has seatings for only 100 persons. So buy your ticket on time at the Scol

di Arte for only 5 Aruban florins per person

For more information please call Sonia Goeloe at tel. 584-9168.

Looking for a gift?
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UNOCA also reminds everyone looking for a Wholy Communion gift that it has a beautiful assortment of books in Papiamentu.

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The UNOCA office is situated at the Caya Hubert "Lio" Booi 21 behind the Cas di Cultura.

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LOCAL NEWS

Be a good citizen and join the Garnier Beach Care clean-up



ORANJESTAD – Four years ago, Garnier, a mass market cosmetics brand of L'Oréal that produces hair care and skin care products, started an annual campaign to instill awareness in the community to take care and safeguard our environment. This year again, the famous brand will once again organize its Garnier Beach Clean Up, where several groups join in this worthy cause.

We all know and are conscious of the problems our environment confronts every day. That is why it is very important for us to ensure and cultivate the love and awareness to preserve our environment in all ages.

There are only a few weeks left before the big event, the annual beach cleaning, and Garnier is inviting everyone to register ASAP. The beach cleanup will be Sunday May 18, starting at 7 a.m. at the Grape Field area. Each group will get a designated area to clean, and be armed with trash bags.

In the past years, this ac-

tivity has grown to attract families, organizations, foundations and groups of friends and colleagues, all coming together to do something that makes a difference. This year's expectations are big; the more volunteers that register, the bigger the clean-up area can be.

The Grape field area is vast and the refuse washed up on the shore is inevitable because of the prevailing currents. It is trash floating over the sea from other countries and often dumped by passing tankers and cargo ships, or those moored just offshore. It is important to remember that the area is vital to the sea turtles that lay their eggs on the beach. This is an imperative reason for keeping the beach clean, so they can lay their eggs in a safe and serene place.

There is still spaces for inscription. Organizers ask the community to call Medicosmetic Aruba today, and gather together a large group of volunteers to help the Garnier Beach Care make a difference.

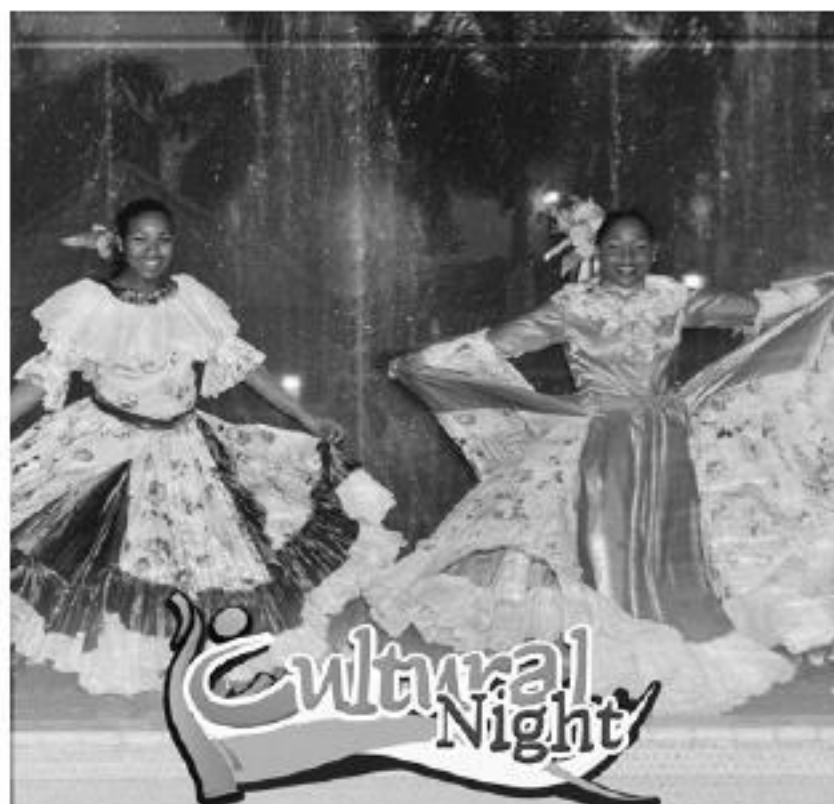
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LOCAL NEWS

Group of loyal visitors honored at the Costa Linda Beach Resort



Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal visitors as Ambassadors of Goodwill of Aruba. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20 or more consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Dennis and Mrs. Margaret Hart from Palm Coast FL, whom are also here for their 50th anniversary, Mr. James and Mrs. Carole Schultz from Lake Arrowhead CA, Mr. Lennert and Mrs. Sharon Forsman from Leland NC, Mr. Dave and Mrs. Dottie Wills from Cincinnati NY, and Mrs. Mildred Stash from Clark Summit PA. All the honorees are loyal members of the Costa Linda and they love Aruba very much because for its friendly people, nice climate, beautiful beaches and diverse restaurants. Aruba feels like a second home to them. The certificates were presented to them by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority accompanied by Mrs. Gloria Janga and Mrs. Miriam Rodriguez representing the Costa Linda Beach Resort.

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Miss Teen Aruba candidates visit Mary Joan Foundation



ORANJESTAD -- Last Saturday, the Miss Teen Aruba candidates accompanied by Miss Plus Size Universe Aruba paid a courtesy visit to the Mary Joan Foundation, which offers support and education to women affected by breast cancer and their families, helping them cope with this difficult time.

It was a very enlightening morning, filled with valuable information and positive emotions. The candidates were very eager to know everything about what the foundation does for our community. MJF President Monique Palm gave ample explanations on how the foundation began. She elaborated on the trajectory of the foundation;

how a group of friends supporting each other grew and became such a large and respected entity in our community, highly valued for the service they offer.

She also stressed the foundation's prime purpose, which is offering support to breast cancer patients. This is done by two professionals, a social worker and a psychologist, together with a group of breast cancer patients also living with this illness. The second goal is to instill awareness in the Aruban female community to take care of themselves. This can be done by performing monthly self-examinations of the breasts. It is very important that cancer is detected in time to

treat effectively; then the survival rate is very good.

Rosa van der Biezen, a volunteer and breast cancer survivor, gave her testimony about all she went through. It was a very emotional moment which caused more than a few candidates to shed tears.

At the end of her talk, all the candidates hugged Rosa to show their appreciation to her for sharing her reality with them.

The Mary Joan Foundation is very grateful for the opportunity to inform the candidates and thanked Sr. George Winterdaal and the GLW Foundation, organizers of the Miss Teen Aruba International Pageant, for their visit.

Isidro Geerman celebrates 40 years of service with Caribbean Mercantile Bank



Forty years ago Isidro Geerman joined the CMB family, a family that back then was very small. Isidro started with the CMB in 1974. During the years he occupied several posts; at present he is the ATM Custodian and takes care of Aruba's biggest ATM network on Aruba. Staff and personnel of the CMB congratulate Isidro and thank him and his family for his loyalty towards the extended CMB family.

LOCAL NEWS

KvK Business Event 2014

“Transforming Our Business Climate-Taking Charge of our Future”

ORANJESTAD -- On Tuesday, April 15, the Aruba Chamber of Commerce (Kamer van Koophandel or KvK) conducted their annual Business Dinner. Each year, the KvK hosts various visiting and local speakers examining the current business climate in Aruba, both challenges and opportunities.

This year, comments by Pierre Rafini Country Manager Aruba and Market Head Business Banking for Suriname and the Caribbean for RBC, principal sponsor of the dinner and President of the KvK, Omar Tromp opened the evening.

Mr. Tromp discussed the Economic Perspective of Aruba, offering statistics on population growth and GDP to support his statements, the latter showing a fluctuation, but definitive downturn since 2007. On the positive side, tourism has shown steady growth since 2009. As shown by numbers, the major stumbling block to the island's financial security, which was a hot topic of debate during the 2013 elections, is the state of the public finance, as an independent International Monetary Fund analysis revealed it far outdistanced the tax revenues.

This has been an issue of great concern for local financial pundits and the KvK. A great deal of attention has been focused on encouraging entrepreneurial ventures, and recognition of the importance small and medium businesses play in Aruba's economy. A greater number of successful businesses results in increased tax revenues and hopefully, a solution to meeting the national obligations.

Public Finance

Government expenditure: payroll costs

2009 Afl. 580 million

2013 Afl. 723 million

Goods & services

2009 Afl. 205 million

2013 Afl. 236 million

Total expenditure on the government apparatus (payroll expenses plus goods & services)

2009 84.4% of total tax revenue

2013 101% of total tax revenue

economic policy in Aruba.” The reasons cited were that they consider the measures taken by the previous cabinet ineffectual and lacking, but do consider those proposed by the present cabinet fair. Also, they would favor more measures modeled after successful policies implemented abroad to be enacted.

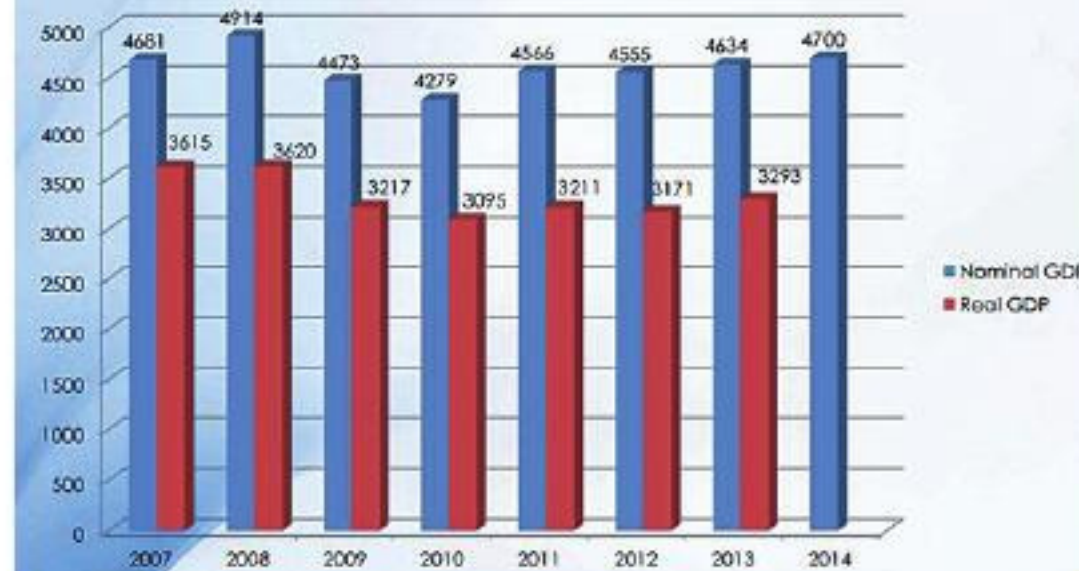
One of the most approved of policies that it felt should be implemented would be the appointment of an Ombudsman. This is a public advocate appointed by the government or by parliament, with a significant degree of independence. Their agency is charged with representing the interests of the public by investigating and addressing complaints of maladministration or violation of rights. Ombudsmen sometimes also aim to identify systemic issues leading to poor service or breaches of people's rights. At the national level, most ombudsmen have a wide mandate to deal with the entire public sector, and sometimes also elements of the private sector (for example, contracted service providers.)

For 38% of those surveyed, a key issue was the speed with which business licensing is expedited. They felt this could best be served by all the aspects of the process being centralized, rather than having to deal with several agencies, as it now requires. It was felt this would “enhance transparency,” as well as speeding the process.

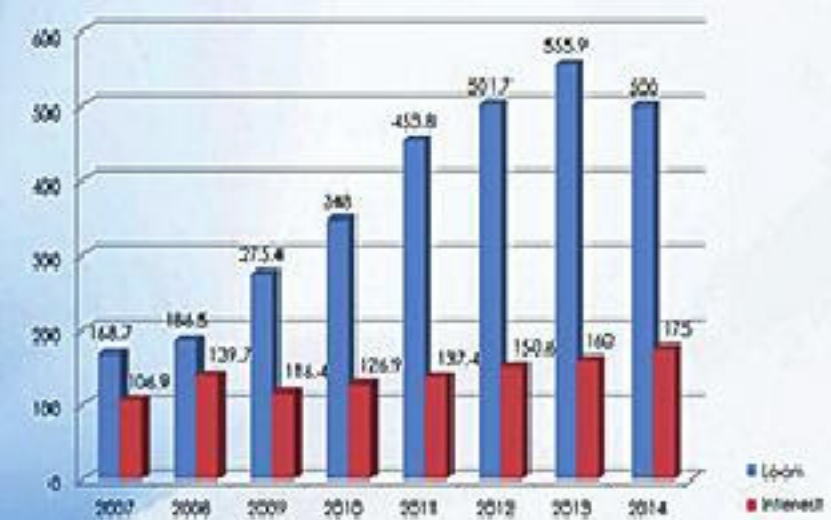
Despite stating they were not negative about economic policies, the entrepreneurs questioned were clearly negative about the present promotion of Aruba as a gateway between Europe and Latin America.

THE MORNING NEWS recently interviewed University of Aruba graduate and local entrepreneur Kawish Misier, founder of the Young Entrepreneurs Society (YES) and CEO of Ecopower Cleaning. He was at the annual Business Dinner, and took exception with some of the guest speakers findings. For his degree thesis, he had conducted his own survey of local business people, focusing on the vendors of the Caya GF Betico Croes, which for decades had been Aruba's principal shopping destination. How the current business climate, and the refurbishment of Downtown Oranjestad has affected them has also prompted him

GDP 2007-2014



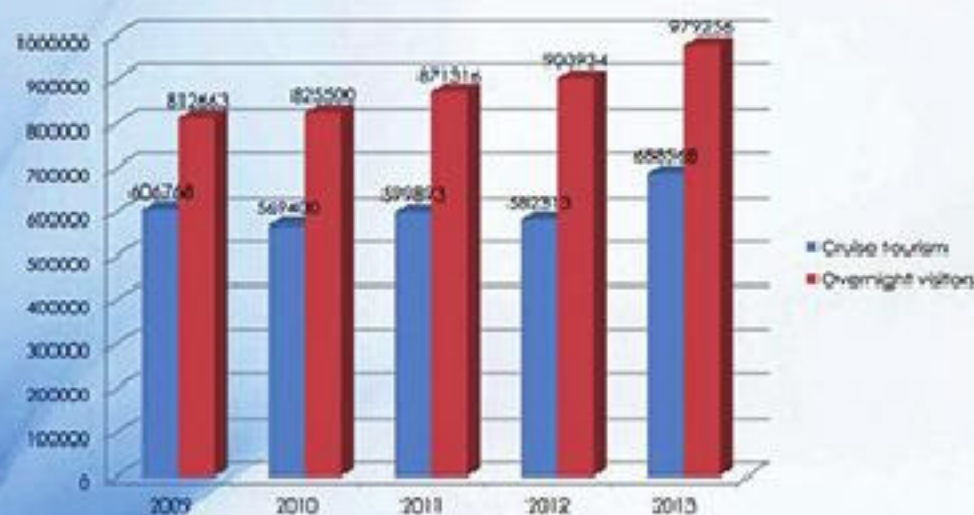
Total loans & interest paid



to draw conclusions on the viability of Oranjestad and its traditional “Main Street”

His comments and the results of his report will be discussed in a follow up article next week.

Tourism



This premise validated the topic of the international guest speaker for the evening, Professor Dr. Michiel S. De Vries of the Radboud University in Nijmegen, also the University of Aruba and President of the Institute of Administrative Sciences, IASIA.

Professor de Vries conducted a survey of 220 local entrepreneurs to reach his conclusions, which were not especially optimistic. Among those surveyed, 52% of their businesses have exited for less than 10 years, and only 27% of those surveyed have remained in business for over 20 years.

Certain conclusions were drawn regarding the current business climate, paramount of which was that “entrepreneurs are not dissatisfied, but neither enthusiastic about eco-

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WORLD NEWS

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Dutch arrest returning 'Syrian jihadist'

THE HAGUE (AFP) – The Dutch authorities have arrested a 20-year-old man suspected of going to Syria to fight on the rebel side of the conflict, the public prosecutor's office said on Tuesday.

The man from Amsterdam was arrested on April 23 for wanting to fight in Syria "under the flag of a terrorist organisation" and "possessing terrorist tracts," the prosecutor said in a statement.

It did not say when the unnamed suspect had returned from Syria or that he had actually seen any combat. He is only allowed contact with his lawyer and can be held for

14 days.

The Dutch authorities have refused passports to at least 10 young Dutch citizens suspected of wanting to become jihadist fighters in Syria's deadly conflict.

More than 100 young Dutch citizens have so far travelled to Syria to fight against President Bashar al-Assad's forces in the near three-year conflict in which 150,000 people have now died, according to NGO figures.

At least seven have been killed in fighting so far, and at least one has carried out a suicide attack.

The European Union

warned earlier this year that the number of young Europeans going to fight alongside extremist groups in Syria and countries such as Somalia and Sudan, was growing fast.

The fear is they will return home radicalised and well versed in the use of weapons and guerrilla tactics, posing a security risk.

Last year, the Dutch government's anti-terror organisation NCTV raised the national threat level to "substantial" as a result of would-be jihadists travelling to Syria.

Upon their return, they are "closely being monitored," the NCTV added.

EU wants to standardise migrant health screening

ATHENS (AFP) – The European Union said Tuesday it would promote common guidelines across the bloc for the health screening of incoming migrants and refugees.

"My intention is to set up a working group... to create guidelines on what (diseases) to screen for, when and how," EU Health Commissioner Tonio Borg said during a two-day informal meeting of EU health ministers in Athens.

"Most (migrants) are healthy. But we have the obligation to protect the health of our own citizens," said Borg, who was Malta's home affairs minister for a decade.

"Having these guidelines will protect migrants and European citizens," he said.

The commissioner added that a new EU fund worth 3.0 billion euros (\$4.2 billion) had been created to help member states

manage immigration and asylum duties, including healthcare.

"This new fund can be used for healthcare, not only for infrastructure," Borg said.

In the EU overall, there is no common law but undocumented migrants are entitled to emergency health treatment, and recognised refugees have to be treated like EU nationals, Borg said.

Greece alone estimates that it spent 20 million euros last year, and 150 million euros in a decade, on health treatment for migrants, said Greek Health Minister Adonis Georgiadis.

The screening guideline initiative is voluntary.

EU states have until June 20 to join or, if parliamentary approval is required, to sign

a political declaration to that effect, Borg said.

"My indications are that almost everyone is on board," he said.



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WORLD NEWS

Peruvian police burn 11 tons of seized drugs



LIMA (AFP) - Peruvian police on Tuesday burned about 11 tons of drugs confiscated in raids in recent months.

Colonel Carlos Reyes, head of the force's organized crime-fighting unit, said the drugs included 600 kilos (1,323 pounds) of cocaine base stashed in a home in Lima's La Molina neighborhood.

He said the drugs had been seized in a string of operations carried out between late 2013 and March 2014.

Several of the groups they were confiscated from were trying to export the banned sub-

stances to Mexican drug gangs, Reyes added.

"This was the first burning of drugs of the calendar year," he said.

Peru is currently the world's top producer of both coca leaves and cocaine, ahead of Colombia and Bolivia, according to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime.

(Bags containing part of more than 11 tons of drugs, mainly cocaine, seized during the first trimester of the year, are being prepared for their incineration in a pressurized oven at a military facility on the outskirts of Lima yesterday)

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Obama back in Washington after week-long Asian trip



WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama returned home to Washington Tuesday after a week-long tour of Asia aimed at reassuring US allies there about America's commitment to the region.

Air Force One landed at Joint Base Andrews east of the American capital at 3:46 pm (1946 GMT) after a 16-hour trip from Manila, the US leader's fourth and final stop.

Over the course of the tour, which also took him to Japan, South Korea and Malaysia, Obama sought to convince officials that Washington was genuinely keen on rebalancing US power to the region.

Obama also warned China over its conduct in territorial disputes in the East and South China Seas, prompting Beijing to accuse him of ganging up with "troublemaking" allies.

"We believe that international law must be upheld, that freedom of navigation must be preserved and commerce must not be impeded. We believe that disputes must be resolved peacefully and not by intimidation or force," Obama said in the Philippine capital.

The trip, marked by numerous news conferences, was also an opportunity for Obama to defend his foreign policy at a time when the Israeli-Palestinian peace process is in tatters and the crisis in Ukraine shows no signs of abating.

Back at the White House, Obama will host German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Friday for a meeting that will prominently feature tensions between Kiev and the Kremlin.

On the domestic political front, spring will likely be focused on campaigning ahead of mid-

term elections in November that do not look too promising for fellow Democrats. In fact, the party looks unlikely to be able to retake the House of Representatives and faces an uphill battle to retain control of the Senate, according to recent polls.



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Dutchman at heart of Europe's horse meat scandal charged

PARIS (AFP) - A Dutch businessman at the heart of a horsemeat scandal that prompted a health scare across Europe last year has been charged and held in France, a judicial source told AFP.

Jan Fasen, who is in his sixties and runs a Cyprus-based firm named Draap Trading, was placed in custody on April 8 and charged with fraud following a probe into the scandal in which horsemeat was mislabelled and sold as ready meals containing beef.

Fasen's lawyer Jerome Triomphe said his client voluntarily turned up for questioning and added that he denied the charges.

The scandal sent governments scrambling to track down how the mislabelling occurred in the sprawling chain of production, spanning abattoirs and meat suppliers across Europe.

The European Commission ordered EU-wide tests of food which showed that almost one



in 20 meals marketed as beef was likely to be tainted with horsemeat.

The highest numbers of horsemeat-tainted products were found in France, Greece, Latvia and Denmark in that order.

The scandal implicated millions of meatballs in Ikea stores in several countries, sausages in Russia and frozen burgers in Britain's Tesco chain.

A Dutch court earlier slapped a 50,000 euro (\$69,000) fine on Fasen and gave him a six-month suspended sentence for selling horsemeat in France as halal beef between 2007 and 2009.

(file pic)

Sweet Pepper Karaoke

Photo depicts 10-year old Jennifer Acker from Melrose, New York. She won the Sweet Pepper Karaoke contest last Wednesday night. Jennifer has her own band back home so no wonder she won the contest. This is Jennifer's 3rd visit to Aruba. Congratulations!



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ENTERTAINMENT

Han, Luke and Leia back for new 'Star Wars'

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - The original "Star Wars" movie blasted its way onto screens a long time ago, in a cinema galaxy seemingly far, far away -- but Han, Luke and Leia will be back soon.

On Tuesday, Disney announced the cast of the film entering production under the name "Star Wars: Episode VII", after months of frenzied speculation among the sci-fi saga's passionate fans.

Harrison Ford may no longer quite have space smuggler Han Solo's roguish good looks, and co-star Mark Hamill will fill out Luke Skywalker's flowing Jedi knight robes a little more thoroughly than once he did.

But fans of the saga -- many of them bitterly disappointed by a series of prequels to the three-decade-old original trilogy -- will welcome their return and that of Carrie Fisher's bold Princess Leia.

Disney, the new owner of pioneering director George Lucas' record-breaking franchise, has recruited blockbuster director J.J. Abrams to bring these fan favorites back to the screen.

His trio of stars may have aged, but he will have access to a much more powerful array of computerized special effects than Lucas had when he launched the series in 1977.

And the original cast, including Anthony Daniels and Kenny Baker as androids C3PO and R2-D2 and Peter Mayhew as the alien "Wookiee" warrior Chewbacca, will be joined by new, mainly younger talent.

John Boyega, Daisy Ridley, Adam Driver, Oscar Isaac, Andy Serkis, Domhnall Gleeson and Hollywood veteran Max von Sydow join the team,

and some appeared in a photo released to mark the start of script readings.

Abrams is a respected mainstream director who has already won plaudits for reviving a beloved space opera franchise, taking the captain's chair on the successful 2009 "Star Trek" re-boot.

The two previous trilogies were released

between 1977-2005 and inspired spin-off books, comics, toys, videogames and cartoons -- earning \$4.4 billion.

But, while the stories still have a massive popular audience, many purists were disappointed by the prequel trilogy, which they felt failed to capture the mythic feel of the originals.

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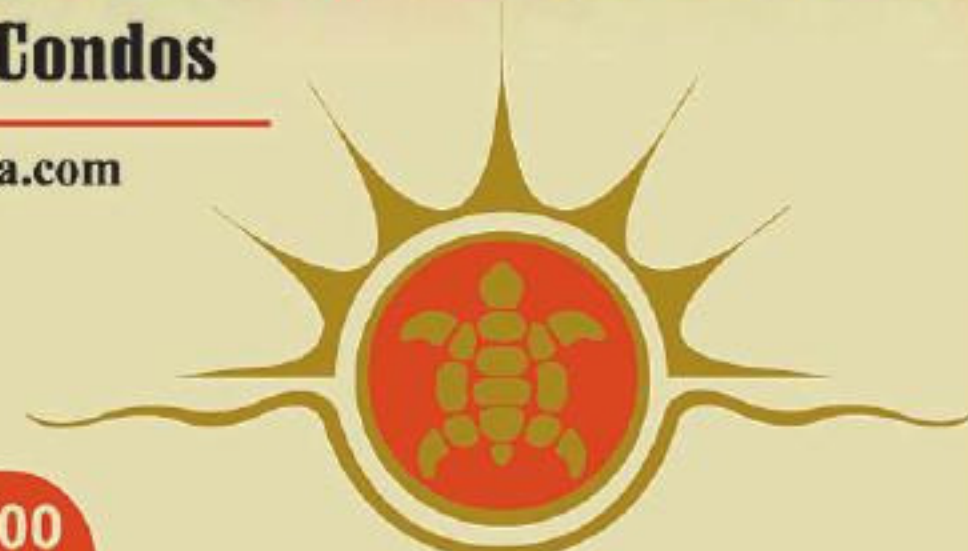
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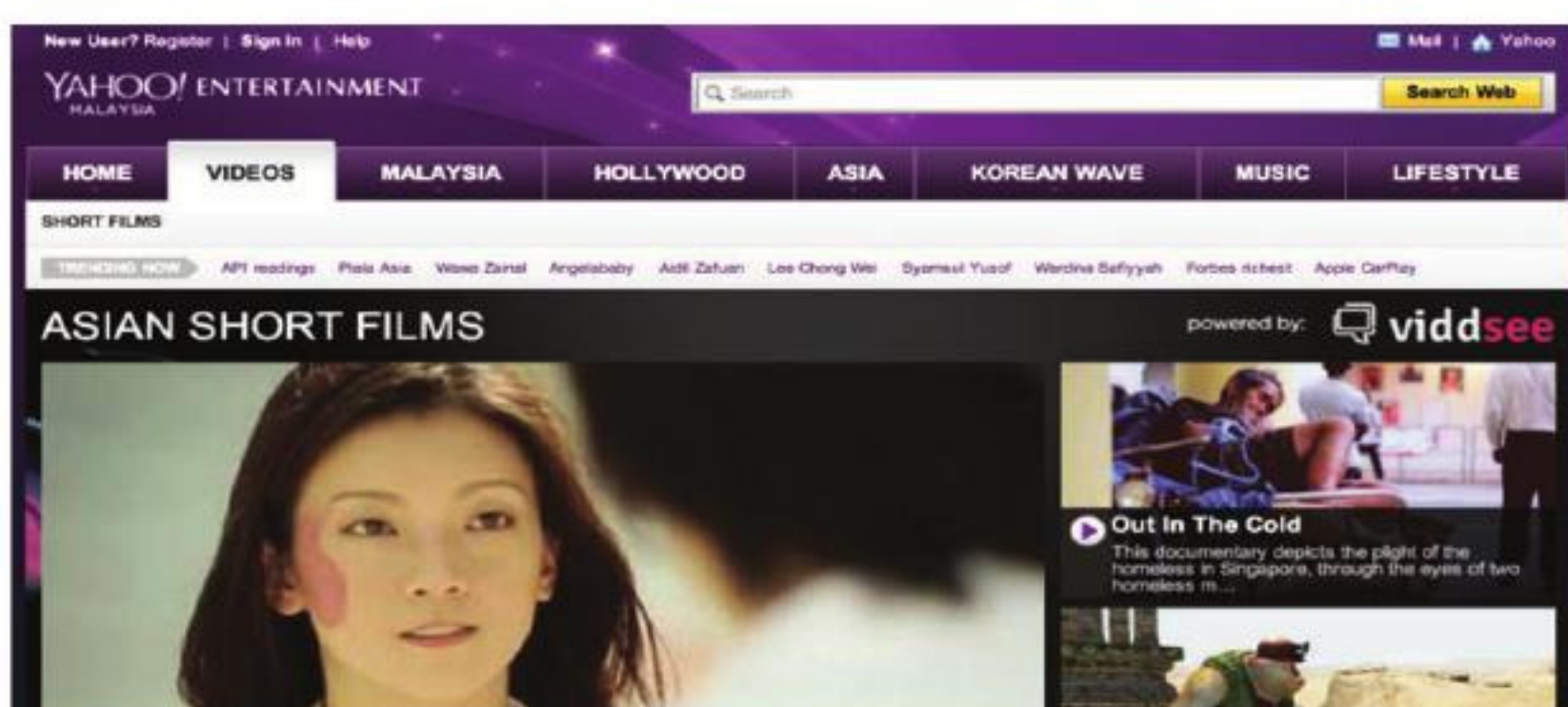
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Yahoo unveils original online shows



SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Yahoo on Monday unveiled original online shows and new advertising options as it continued a long-running attempt to evolve into an Internet venue for premier content. Yahoo used an advertising-focused Digital Content NewFronts gathering in New York City to trumpet two comedy programs, a partnership with Live Nation to stream concerts, an online Travel magazine, and new advertising capabilities. "Our goal is to not only enable

the future but also to help invent it," Yahoo chief marketing officer Kathy Savitt said in a release. The new shows will launch on Yahoo Screen next year and be viewable on mobile devices as well as desktop computers or through Apple TV or Roku set-top boxes. And mid-year, Yahoo will begin streaming live US concerts daily at a new Live Nation Channel. Yahoo also showed off new advertising tactics for its log-in page and its expanding line of digital magazines, the latest

of which will be devoted to travel. When people log into Yahoo on desktop or tablet computers, they will be shown 15-second video ads. The California-based Internet firm said it has partnered with industry-tracker comScore to provide advertisers with metrics regarding digital marketing campaigns.

The pioneering Internet search engine has been working to re-create itself as an online venue for premier and personalized digital content since being eclipsed by Google.

N. Korea says nuclear test is still an option

SEOUL (AFP) - North Korea said Tuesday it would strengthen its nuclear deterrent following President Barack Obama's "dangerous" Asian tour, and would not rule out another atomic test.

There are concerns the North is preparing to conduct its fourth atomic detonation, with recent satellite images showing stepped-up activity at its main nuclear test site.

Obama's tour, which ended Tuesday in the Philippines after taking in Japan, South Korea and Malaysia, "was a dangerous one as it was aimed to bring dark clouds of more acute confrontation and nuclear arms race to Asia", a Pyongyang foreign ministry spokesman said in a statement official to state-run Korean Central News Agency (KCNA).

Pyongyang would bolster its nuclear deterrent "now that the US brings the dark clouds of a nuclear war to hang over the DPRK (North Korea)", the spokesman said.

The "new form" of nu-

clear test could perhaps lay the stage for a test based on new uranium-enrichment technology, analysts have said.

Obama's tour "was designed for undisguised confrontation to retain a tighter grip on allies of the US and encircle and contain its rivals in Eurasia, pursuant to the US Asia-Pacific strategy for domination and scenario for aggression from A to Z," the spokesman added.

While in Seoul Obama had angered the North by demanding that it abandon its nuclear weapons programme, and by threatening tougher sanctions if it went ahead with another test.

"North Korea's continued pursuit of nuclear weapons is a path that leads only to more isolation," he told American troops based in Seoul.

The foreign ministry spokesman said the comments showed that US hostility towards the North remains unchanged, and that it is still trying to topple the state by force.

'Russian Zuckerberg' rules out return without reforms

MOSCOW (AFP) - The maverick founder of Russia's top social network said Monday that he would not return to the country until a series of sweeping reforms is enacted.

Pavel Durov, the 29-year-old founder of VKontakte, fled the country last week after a bitter dispute with a shareholder culminated in his departure from the company.

Durov -- who is often compared to Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg -- has claimed that the social network has effectively been taken over by Kremlin allies, and linked his loss of control to his refusal to reveal to Russia's security service the identities of those using the site

to coordinate protests in Ukraine.

In a "farewell message", Durov said he was now working on a new mobile social network platform with a team in central Europe.

In the note, posted on his VKontakte page on Monday, he listed seven corruption-busting conditions he would need to see in place before returning to Russia, including elected judges and fully open courts.

He also called for simplified legislation, an end to "feudal throwbacks" such as Russians having separate internal passports, and reforms to what he called the country's overly standardised school system.



ECONOMY

Moody's cuts Cuba credit rating

NEW YORK -- The Moody's credit rating firm has dropped Cuba's low ranking even further, saying that the island is vulnerable to an "elevated risk" of an economic collapse in Venezuela as well as "abrupt and disorderly" changes at home.

Although Cuban ruler Raúl Castro "recently indicated that his current term will be his last and, at the same time, appointed a first vice president ... there is considerable uncertainty around the future state of Cuba's political economy," the firm said.

Those factors create the risk of "an abrupt and disorderly political transition" in Cuba, Moody's said in a report last week on how the turmoil in Venezuela could affect its cheap oil exports to member nations of the Petrocaribe program.

"Cuba relies heavily upon Venezuela for oil, which is imported with favorable financing terms through Petrocaribe," the credit rating firm said. It put the value of Venezuelan oil sent to the island in 2012 at more than \$6 billion.



"Given Venezuela's increasingly unsustainable macroeconomic imbalances and elevated risk of an economic and financial collapse, the future of this arrangement is uncertain, rendering Cuba vulnerable to a sharp adjustment in the cost of energy imports," Moody's said.

Cuba pays for the Venezuelan crude by sending an estimated 40,000 medical professionals, teachers, sports coaches and other "advisers" to work in Venezuela, although details of the arrangement remain largely unknown.

Cuba's credit rating has been traditionally poor under the communist government. Moody's dropped its rating last week from Caa1 to Caa2, described as part of the category known as "highly speculative" and "exotic."

Castro, 82, has been pushing reforms to move the island's economy away from its centrally controlled and inefficient Soviet model and toward a system that allows more room for small-scale private enterprise.

A Happy Labor Day to the Aruban Community



ARUBA Aruba Tourism Authority



Current as of:
04/29/2014

Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00
Canada	CAD	1.60	1.62
Britain	GBP	2.93	2.98
Switzerland	CHF	201.74	202.46
Netherlands	EUR	244.02	246.25
Sweden	SEK	26.21	26.93
Denmark	DKK	32.03	32.75
Norway	NOK	28.77	29.49
Japan	JPY	171.81	173.38

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Gazprom warns new sanctions could hit EU gas supplies



Russian gas giant Gazprom's logo is attached on the roof of the recently built Adler thermal power plant in the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi. Russia's energy giant Gazprom warned yesterday that new Western sanctions aimed at punishing the Kremlin for its perceived attempts to destabilise Ukraine could both hurt its stock price and leave Europe without crucial gas supplies. The world's biggest gas producer admitted that the threat of US sanctions on the Russian energy sector could impact its operations and damage the wider Russian economy -- already dependent on resource exports and in danger of tilting into recession this year. (AFP)

Siemens to make offer in battle for France's Alstom

BERLIN (AFP) - German engineering giant Siemens said yesterday it had decided to make an offer to France's Alstom, heating up a politically-sensitive battle for what has been termed a French "national jewel".

In a brief statement, Siemens gave no details of its intended bid that would aim to thwart interest in Alstom by US group General Electric.

Yesterday's Crossword Answer

NYC	WRAPS	SAW
EEE	ACTUP	OAK
WAD	RAMBO	GAS
THEIR	STAG	
	RITA	SLIER
LASSOING	TELE	
APP	REGAL	SSN
LEAD	REPARTEE	
ADROP	LETA	
	STUN	HYMNS
USE	FORCE	TOE
SOL	FLAIR	NNW
STY	SAGAS	SOS

HUH?! COMICS



Important Numbers

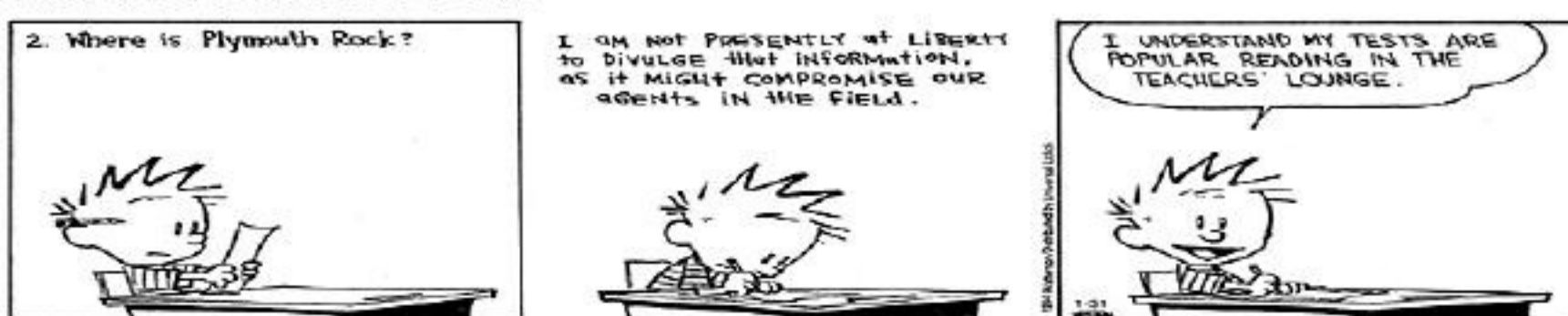
PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



GENERAL INFORMATION 118

EMERGENCY

Police - Fire Department -
Ambulance 911
Coast Guard 913

HOSPITAL

Horacio Oduber Hospital 527-4000
Medical Center San Nicolas 524-8833

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Aruba Taxi Company 587-1300
Diamond Taxi Service 587-2300
Taxi Address Service 587-5900
Arubabus 588-0617

Rx Pharmacies & Doctors on Duty

WEEK: 19

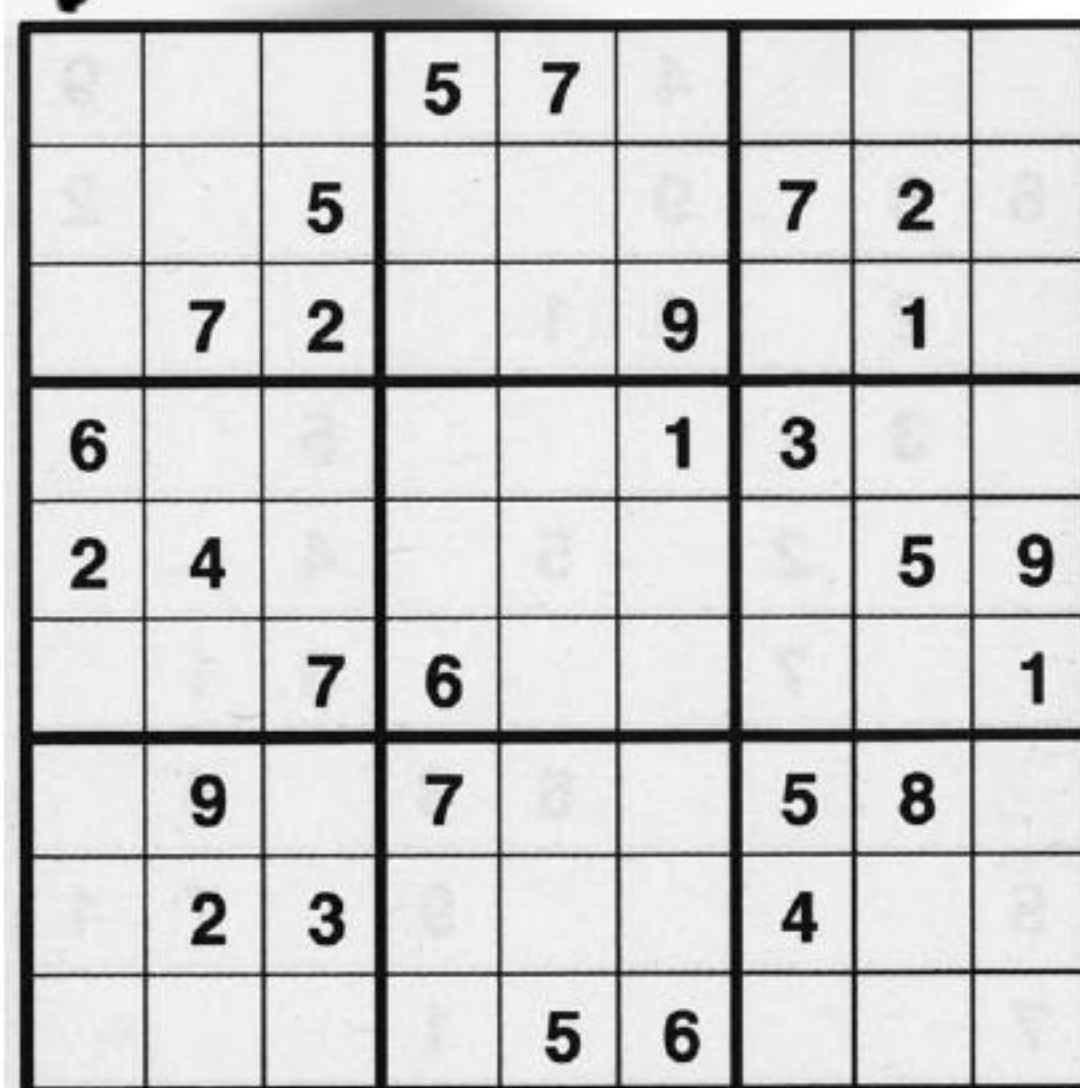
Oranjestad: Botica Santa Ana 586-0027
San Nicolas: Botica San Lucas 584-5119
Family Physician post 587-4631
Medical Center San Nicolas 524-8833

CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Chief actor
 - Responsibility
 - Pres. Coolidge
 - Brazilian soccer great
 - "___ Man" (1984 film)
 - Hurry
 - Harvard's rival
 - Change direction suddenly
 - Tumult
 - Murphy Brown's show
 - Make tidy
 - ___ in distress
 - Parched
 - Tres minus dos
 - Candidate Landon
 - Snacks
 - Anderson Cooper's channel
 - Listened
 - Itinerary word
 - Tailless amphibian
 - Recent (prefix)
 - Harris and Asner
 - Tack on
 - Roger and Demi
 - Pencil top material
 - Gp.
- DOWN**
- Observe in secret
 - Herbal drink
 - Detergent
 - brand
 - Shoals
 - Wilbur Wright's brother
 - Maiden name indicator
 - Tip a barrel
 - More tender
 - Talk
 - Assistant
 - Russia's Trotsky
 - Slangy agreement
 - Sailor's "yes" (abbr.)
 - Conduit
 - ___ Domini
 - Lisa of the Louvre
 - Matinee-idol idolizer
 - State emphatically
 - Neap ___
 - Smart talk
 - Self-reproach
 - Entranceway
 - Speck
 - Clear a window
 - Window covering
 - Poet Nash
 - Reckless
 - Russia between 1917 and 1991 (abbr.)
 - Baseball clubs
 - Stocking mishap
 - "___ to Pieces" (2 wds.)
 - CIA employee (abbr.)
 - Drain unclogger

Sudoku



SOLUTION

2	6	1	9	5	8	7	8	4
4	9	7	8	1	6	3	2	5
8	8	5	7	2	4	9	6	1
1	7	2	5	6	9	4	8	3
6	9	4	8	9	1	7	2	5
9	4	6	1	7	2	8	5	9
9	1	8	6	9	7	2	4	8
4	2	4	8	8	1	9	9	6
9	8	6	2	4	9	8	1	7

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



WRITE-UPS

Discover authentic Aruban cuisine at The Queen's

Enjoy a true taste of Aruba without having to travel in the charming surroundings of The Queen's Restaurant in the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. Your host, Varella Innocencia has brought her very popular Oranjestad eatery to Palm Beach, showcasing authentic local cuisine only a short walk away from the major resorts.

The "hipper" and elegant new digs offer beautiful views, but Mama Luisa's magical touch in the kitchen is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. She can be counted on to be conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generation. As Varella says, "My mom loves and lives to cook. Even when she is not at work in the restaurant, she is experimenting with new dishes all day at home."

She is the Queen of the Kitchen."

Be sure to try Luisa's acclaimed "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"—"Grandma's Beef Stew," or their fresh, whole snapper, with Mama Luisa's delectable salsa criollo. Don't miss the specialty of



Mama Luisa hard at work in the kitchen

the house, a favorite local delicacy, Keshi Yena—"Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted

Gouda. It is satisfying and particularly memorable. Regional side dishes and some of Mama's secret recipe preparation of banana hash and creamy potatoes provide a deliciously picturesque meal.

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to go, reasonably priced and easily accessible. A full menu can be seen on their website, <http://www.thequeensaruba.com/>.

Aside from an extensive regular menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season, and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't be shy about asking for something that may not be on the menu, as they are always eager to please.

The Queen's is open daily from 3:00 pm - 11:00 pm, offering both indoor and outdoor dining. telf. 5860606.

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want



in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area also to house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of

vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.



SPORTS

Early Bird Menu

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm



Appetizers: Stuffed Avocado, Escargots Bourguignon, (choose one) Fruits of the Seven Seas, Choices of Soups

Entrees: Breaded Grouper topped with coconut shrimps served with rice and vegetables

Land & Sea

Chicken Breast, Steak & Shrimps with rice and vegetables

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Real Madrid reached Champions League final

MUNICH (AFP) - Real Madrid reached their first Champions League final for 12 years with an historic 4-0 win at Bayern Munich in Tuesday's semi-final, second leg to knock the holders out.

Having won last week's first leg 1-0 in Madrid, Real won the semi-final 5-0 on aggregate as Pep Guardiola's Bayern suffered their heaviest home defeat in European competition.

Bayern had previously never lost at home by more than two goals in Europe as the Bavarian giants saw their dreams of reaching a fourth Champions League final in five years crushed.

"We have witnessed a debacle, we didn't put enough passion into it," said Bayern chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge.

Real are now one game away from 'La Decima' - their 10th European title - and will face either neighbours Atletico Madrid or Jose Mourinho's Chelsea in the May 24 final in Lisbon.

Real centre-back Sergio Ramos produced two early bullet headers to dismiss Bayern's dreams of becoming the first team to defend the Champions League title.

World Player of the Year Cristiano Ronaldo then made it 3-0 at the break before the Real superstar netted his 49th goal of the season with a free-kick just before the final whistle.

Having now netted 16 times in this season's Champions League, Ronaldo set a new record for the most goals in a single European campaign, bettering the previous mark of 14 set by Barcelona's Lionel Messi and ex-AC Milan forward Jose Altafini.

Clippers owner Sterling banned for life over race remarks



NEW YORK (AFP) - Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling was banned from the NBA for life Tuesday by league commissioner Adam Silver after he made racist comments that sparked a national firestorm.

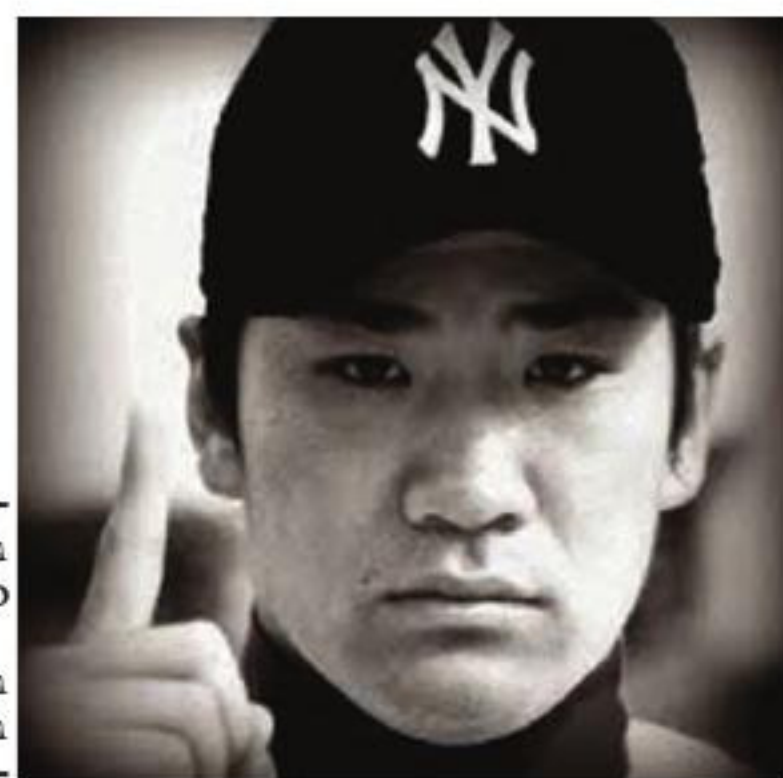
Under the ban, Sterling cannot attend any NBA games or workouts, appear at any Clippers office or facility or make any business or personnel decisions for the club.

He was also fined \$2.5 million and is banned from all league activity.

Silver said he will urge the NBA owners to exercise their authority to force Sterling to sell the team, which is valued by Forbes magazine at \$575 million.

Sterling bought the club in 1981 for \$12 million.

Baseball: Tanaka strikes out 11 as Yankees beat Angels



over 6 1/3 innings on the mound.

But it was Adam Warren, who took over for Tanaka in the seventh inning, that collected the victory while David Robertson pitched the ninth to earn the save.

Tanaka remains 3-0 this season and after a 24-0 campaign in Japan last year with the Rakuten Eagles and wins in his last four games of 2012, he is on a 31-game win streak dating to August 19, 2012.

Tanaka now has 46 strikeouts for the season, the most by a Yankee pitcher in his first handful of major league starts.

The Yankees evened the score in the seventh innings and Jacoby Ellsbury scored the go-ahead run on a wild pitch in the bottom of the eighth inning.

Ellsbury walked to lead off the eighth, took second on a walk to Carlos Beltran

NEW YORK (AFP) - Masahiro Tanaka

struck out 11 batters but did not figure in the Major League Baseball decision as the New York Yankees edged the Los Angeles Angels 3-2 on Sunday.

The 25-year-old Japanese right-hander, signed by the Yankees to a seven-year deal worth \$155 million in January, surrendered two runs, including a solo homer, and scattered five hits with four walks



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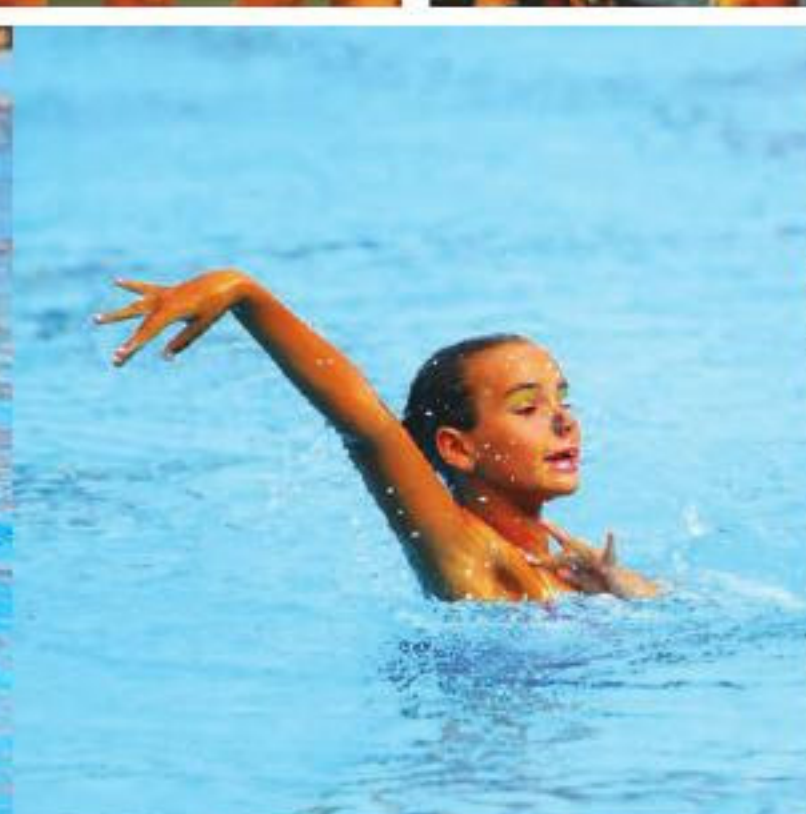
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Aruba sweeps the CARIFTA 2014 Synchronized Swimming events



SPORTS

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For more information about The Residences, visit our Sales Office located in the Golf Clubhouse at the Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort. For questions or to schedule your appointment to view a condominium:

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Aruba sweeps the CARIFTA 2014 Synchronized Swimming events and wins all the gold

SAVANETA- The final day of the CARIFTA 2014 Swimming Championships, conducted at the Roly Bisslik Olympic Pool in Savaneta, was dedicated to the synchronized swimming competitions. They were held on Saturday, April 27, which was also the national holiday of King's Day.

Observers agree, Aruba Dolphin and two clubs from Curacao, Typhoon Synchro and Swordfish Synchro dominated the field. On Friday, the technical heats were conducted and Saturday morning continued with the freestyle, creative routines by teams, individual swimmers and duet. All the swimmers delivered thrilling performances and excitingly choreographed routines, to tremendous applause and appreciation from the audience.

Victoria GEURTS of Aruba won a gold medal for her solo performance in the under 12 category, followed by Kainah CROES who claimed the silver, and the bronze went to Vivian Buijze of Typhoon Synchro. In the solo even for ages 13 - 15 Aruba again got the gold with Abigail DE VEER taking first place. Jade MIDDELHOE of Swordfish Synchro from Curacao won silver and Sue-Edy Luciana of Typhoon Synchro earned



the bronze medal. The final solo event was for ages 15 - 17 years, and again, an Aruban swimmer, Neftaly Albertsz won the top spot and gold. Second place and the silver went to Marla Montero of Swordfish Synchro di Corsow and third to her teammate, Fayrah Ruz Guerra.

In the duet competition, Aruba again claimed gold in the Under 12 category. Kainah Croes and Victoria Geurts finished in first place and their teammates, Zuriene Dabian y Meghan Tromp won the silver. Swimmers Vivian Buijze and Claudia Elena

Marmol Rojo from ROJO, Typhoon Synchro won bronze. In the Duet 13 - 15 years, Aruba's Abigail de Veer and Isabella Noguera won the gold medal and their teammates, Anastasia van Daal and Rizhaylee Bello won silver. Coming in third was the duet Sue-Edy Luciana and Kaitlyn Fullinck of Typhoon Synchro.

Aruba won the gold medal for the team routine in the under 12 category and the cu Typhoons of Curacao claimed the silver.

Aruba came in first in the Overall Country Standing, with the two Curacao teams, Typhoon Synchro and Swordfish Synchro taking second and third place, respectively.

The High Point Trophy for 12 years and under, went to Vicotria Geurts, in the 13-15 year division the winner was Abigail de Veer, and in the 16-18 years, Neftaly Albertsz; all from Aruba.

For years, Aruba has dominated Synchronized Swimming throughout the Caribbean. This year's CARIFTA event again underlined the attention, enthusiasm and support from the local community this sport has garnered, and the winning results.

(for more pictures see page 15)